

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 OFA-01 OES-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4593

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 27806

LIMDIS

FROM EUGENE ROSTOW

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS IC GW

SUBJECT: FRG-ICELAND-EEC FISH CONTROVERSY

REF: PARIS 27124; PARIS 27114; PARIS 27171

1. FOLLOWING DRAFTED PRIOR TO RECEIPT STATE 251010.

2. IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION 23 OCTOBER BIRRENBACH REPORTED THAT WHILE THE PROBLEM OF WAIVING THE PROTOCOL CONDITION FOR ICELAND WAS A COMMUNITY QUESTION ON WHICH GERMANY COULD NOT TAKE UNILATERAL ACTION, IT WOULD TAKE A SYMPATHETIC VIEW OF THE PROTOCOL PROBLEM PROVIDED IT WERE ASSURED (1) THAT THERE WOULD BE NO FURTHER UNILATERAL ACTIONS ON THE PART OF ICELAND; AND (2) THAT ICELAND WOULD TAKE A "REASONABLE" ATTITUDE ON FISHING QUOTAS AND CONSERVATION MEASURES (WHICH GERMANY RECOGNIZES ARE LINKED BUT SEPARATE PROBLEMS) NOT ONLY FOR GERMANY BUT FOR OTHER COMMUNITY NATIONS AS WELL.

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3. I RESPONDED THAT I THOUGHT THE SECOND CONDITION
COULD BE SATISFIED RATHER EASILY, ACCORDING TO HANNESON,
BUT NOT UNTIL THERE WAS REAL PROGRESS ON THE PROTOCOL
QUESTION, WHICH WAS A POLITICAL IRRITANT AND ROADBLOCK
LIKE THE AMERICAN EMBARGO ON ARMS FOR TURKEY. THE VITAL
FOCUS FOR ACTION SHOULD BE THE MEETING IN BRUSSELS ON
OCTOBER 27. IF GERMANY CLEARLY TOOK A FORWARD POSITION,
ITS EFFECT ON THE ATMOSPHERE FOR NEGOTIATION COULD WELL
BE AS POSITIVE AS GENTSCHER'S MEETING WITH THE ICE-
LANDERS IN NEW YORK.

4. BIRRENBACH SAID HE WOULD DO WHATEVER HE COULD TO
PERSUADE THE GERMAN AUTHORITIES TO TAKE SUCH A POSITION
AT THE BRUSSELS MEETING.
RUSH

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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